

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04914 311153Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /058 W

----- 002919

R 310720Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 351

AMEMBASSY KABUL

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4914

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS: PROPAGANDA

1. IN COURSE DISCUSSION PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS
MAY 31, AFGHAN CHARGE SHERZOI TOLD POL COUNSELOR
THAT "ABOUT A WEEK AGO" PAK AMBASSADOR TO KABUL
ALI ARSHAD HAD APPROACHED GOA DEPUTY FOREIGN
MINISTER WAHID ABDULLAH AND PROPOSED LOWERING OF
PROPAGANDA LEVEL. ACCORDING TO SHERZOI, ABDULLAH
HAD IN RESPONSE DRAWN DISTINCTION BETWEEN PERSONAL
ATTACKS ON NAIONAL LEADERS AND WHAT ABDULLAH
TERMED "POLITICAL PROPAGANDA." ABDULLAH TOLD ALI
ARSHAD THAT GOA WAS UNWILLING TO END LATTER BECAUSE
TO DO SO WOULD IMPLY THAT IT WAS SATISFIED WITH
PRESENT POSITION. HOWEVER, HE DID EXPRESS HIS
WILLINGNESS TO STOP PERSONAL ATTACKS. HE AND PAK
AMBASSADOR THEN CAME TO WHAT SHERZOI TERMED
"VERBAL AGREEMENT" TO END SUCH AD HOMINEM PROPAGANDA.

2. IF REPORT IS ACCURATE -- AND IF AGREEMENT IS
EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED DOWN THE LINE -- THIS IS
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GOOD NEWS INDEED. WE ARE CURIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT

MFA OFFICIALS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT AFGHAN AFFAIRS
HAVE NOT MENTIONED IT TO US IN COURSE MEETINGS
WE HAVE HAD WITH THEM OVER PAST WEEK.WE'D
APPRECIATE ANYTHING KABUL CAN DEVELOP ON THIS AS
WE FOLLOW UP WITH PAKS HERE.
BYROADE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PROPAGANDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ISLAMA04914
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750191-0401
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975052/aaaaabci.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS: PROPAGANDA
TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF
To: STATE KABUL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006